

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

1-3. (CANCELED)

4. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A digital still camera having an image sensing device for sensing an image of a subject and outputting image data representing the image of the subject, and an image recording controller for recording image data output from the image sensing device, on a recording medium, The camera according to claim 1, further comprising:

a mode selection unit for selecting a voice recording mode or a character recording mode;

a voice input unit for inputting a voice and outputting voice data representing the voice;

a voice recording controller for recording the voice data output from said voice input unit on the recording medium in response to a selection of the voice recording mode by said mode selection unit;

a character data generating unit for generating character data representing the voice data output from said voice input unit;

a character recording controller for recording the character data generated by said character data generating unit on the recording medium in response to a selection of the character recording mode by said mode selection unit;

a determination unit for determining whether the digital still camera has a voice output unit when playback is performed;

a second control unit, responsive to a determination by said determination unit that the camera has said voice output unit, for outputting the voice by the voice data to said voice output unit and halting display of characters represented by the character data; and

a third control unit, responsive to a determination by said determination unit that the camera does not have said voice output unit, for controlling a display unit so as to display the characters represented by the character data.

5-12. (CANCELED)

13. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A digital still camera having an image sensing device for sensing an image of a subject and outputting image data representing the image of the subject, and an image recording controller for recording image data output from the image sensing device, on a recording medium. The camera according to claim 1, further comprising:

a mode selection unit for selecting a voice recording mode or a character recording mode;

a voice input unit for inputting a voice and outputting voice data representing the voice;

a voice recording controller for recording the voice data output from said voice input unit on the recording medium in response to a selection of the voice recording mode by said mode selection unit;

a character data generating unit for generating character data representing the voice data output from said voice input unit;

a character recording controller for recording the character data generated by said character data generating unit on the recording medium in response to a selection of the character recording mode by said mode selection unit;

a determination unit for determining whether

all of the image data, the voice data, and the character data are recorded on the recording medium in a form linked to each other, or

only the image data and the character data are recorded on the recording medium in a form linked to each other;

a sixth control unit, in response to a determination by said determination unit that all of the image data, the voice data, and the character data are recorded on the recording medium in a form linked to each other,

for controlling a voice output unit of the camera in such a manner that the voice represented by the voice data is output and

for controlling a display device in such a manner that the image represented by the image data and characters represented by the character data are output as a combined image; and

a seventh control unit, in response to a determination by said determination unit that only the image data and the character data are recorded on the recording medium in a form linked to each other,

for controlling the voice output unit of the camera in such a manner that the voice represented by the voice data is output and

for controlling the display device in such a manner that the image represented by the image data is output.

14-27. (CANCELED)

28. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) A method for playing back data recording in a storage medium, wherein the storage medium includes a structure to record image data, character data related to the image data, and voice data related to the image data and wherein the related character data is a visual representation of text data corresponding to the related voice data, the method comprising:

determining if the related voice data is recorded in the storage medium;

outputting the related voice data only if it is determined that the related voice data is recorded in the storage medium; and

displaying only the image data or both the related character data and the image data based on the result of the step of determining if the related voice data is recorded in the storage medium.

29. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The method of claim 28, further comprising:

determining if the related character data is recorded in the storage medium if it is determined that the related voice data is recorded in the storage medium;

displaying both the related character data and the image data if it is determined that the related character data is recorded in the storage medium; and

displaying only the image data if it is determined that the related character data is not recorded in the storage medium.

30. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The method of claim 29, wherein the step of displaying both the related character data and the image data comprises:

combining the image data and the character data into combined image data; and
displaying the combined image data.

31. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The method of claim 28, further comprising displaying only the image data if it is determined that the related voice data is not recorded in the storage medium.

32. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The method of claim 28, wherein the image data and the related character are stored as a combined image data in the storage medium, and wherein the step of displaying both the related character data and the image data comprises displaying the combined image data.

33. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The method of claim 28, further comprising:
determining if a voice erase command has been issued; and
erasing the voice data if it is determined that the voice erase command has been issued.

34-35. (CANCELED)

36. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) A digital still camera having an image sensing device for sensing an image of a subject and outputting image data representing the image of the subject, and an image recording controller for recording image data output from the image sensing device, on a recording medium, comprising:

a voice input unit to enable input of voice and to enable output of voice data representing the voice;

a voice recording controller to enable recording the voice data output from said voice input unit on the recording medium;

a character data generating unit to enable generating character data representing the voice data output from said voice input unit;

a character recording controller to enable recording the character data generated by said character data generating unit on the recording medium;

a determination unit to enable determining whether the digital still camera has a voice output unit when playback is performed; and

a control unit, responsive to a determination by said determination unit that the camera has said voice output unit, to enable output of the voice represented by the voice data to said voice output unit and to enable halting display of characters represented by the character data.

37. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) A digital still camera having an image sensing device for sensing an image of a subject and outputting image data representing the image of the subject, and an image recording controller for recording image data output from the image sensing device, on a recording medium, comprising:

a voice input unit to enable input of voice and to enable output of voice data representing the voice;

a voice recording controller to enable recording the voice data output from said voice input unit on the recording medium;

a character data generating unit to enable generating character data representing the voice data output from said voice input unit;

a character recording controller to enable recording the character data generated by said character data generating unit on the recording medium;

a determination unit to enable determining whether the digital still camera has a voice output unit when playback is performed; and

a control unit, responsive to a determination by said determination unit that the camera does not have said voice output unit, to enable controlling a display unit so as to display characters represented by the character data.

38-39. (CANCELED)

40. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) A digital still camera having an image sensing device for sensing an image of a subject and outputting image data representing the image of the subject, and an image recording controller for recording image data output from the image sensing device, on a recording medium, comprising:

- a voice input unit to enable input of voice and to enable output of voice data representing the voice;

- a voice recording controller to enable recording the voice data output from said voice input unit on the recording medium;

- a character data generating unit to enable generating character data representing the voice data output from said voice input unit; and

- a character recording controller to enable recording the character data generated by said character data generating unit on the recording medium;

- a determination unit to enable determining whether

- all of the image data, the voice data, and the character data are recorded on the recording medium in a form linked to each other, or

- only the image data and the character data are recorded on the recording medium in a form linked to each other;

- a first control unit, in response to a determination by said determination unit that all of the image data, the voice data, and the character data are recorded on the recording medium in a form linked to each other,

to enable controlling a voice output unit of the camera in such a manner that the voice represented by the voice data is output, and

to enable controlling a display device in such a manner that the image represented by the image data and characters represented by the character data are output as a combined image; and

a second control unit, in response to a determination by said determination unit that only the image data and the character data are recorded on the recording medium in a form linked to each other,

to enable controlling the voice output unit of the camera in such a manner that the voice represented by the voice data is output, and

to enable controlling the display device in such a manner that the image represented by the image data is output.